

WINGSPREAD

READINESS ♦ STEWARDSHIP ♦ TRANSFORMATION

Randolph AFB, Texas ♦ 58th Year, No. 20 ♦ May 21, 2004

A fond farewell *Wing commander to relinquish the guidon*

By 2nd Lt. LaShonda Bush
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Col. Mark Graper, 12th Flying Training Wing commander, will say his final goodbyes next week as he prepares to relinquish command of the 12th FTW to Col. John Hesterman III during a ceremony May 28 at 9 a.m. in front of base operations.

The colonel has been commanding the wing since Aug. 5, 2002. Under his “Readiness, Stewardship and Transformation” theme, the wing has seen many significant changes, achieved various milestones and garnered numerous awards. Under the readiness fold the wing flew more than 68,000 sorties, executing more than 107,000 flying hours in five different aircraft. The combined wing effort graduated more

than 530 navigators, 200 electronic warfare officers and 700 instructor pilots. Under his leadership more than 3,100 Airmen were postured for deployment. This preparation was the key to successfully deploying more than 498 Airmen in support of operations around the globe, to include Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. The stewardship of this historic installation and capabilities of those assigned here were highlighted at a Centennial of Flight Tattoo and at an impressive air show. Randolph’s “Showplace” status flourished under his guidance, as the first-ever off-base Air Education and Training Command Centennial of Flight Tattoo showcased the Air Force to an audience of over 12,000 people from the San Antonio area. This program was followed later in the year with the 2003 Randolph Air Show, a two-day event with an attendance of over 200,000 people, all treated to the first ever 15-ship flyover of T-37s as a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the trainer and a composite flyover representing all of the aircraft in the wing’s inventory. The completion of a strategic sourcing review and a wing reorganization were two of the 12th FTW’s transformation initiatives during the colonel’s tenure. Other major changes included the conversion of the T-38A to the T-38C and the renovation of the Airman Leadership School. In addition, numerous construction projects have begun under the colonel’s watch including a massive facelift to the Main Gate and Harmon Drive. Wing members were recognized for their achievements throughout the past two years. In 2002, the child development center was named best in the Air Force. In 2003, the enlisted club was named best in the Air Force and the 12th Services Division garnered the AETC LeMay Award for the best Services in the command; and the wing earned an overall “Excellent” rating during the AETC Operational Readiness Inspection.

“Melinda and I are grateful for the opportunity to have

See Farewell on page 4



Col. Mark Graper, 12th Flying Training Wing commander, finishes his last flight in a Randolph T-37. (Photo by Dave Terry)

Wing reorganization underway

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

The lion’s share of the 12th Flying Training Wing reorganization was accomplished Tuesday. The 12th Logistics Group was inactivated, the 12th Support Group was redesignated as the 12th Mission Support Group, and the 12th Aircraft Maintenance Organization was redesignated as the 12th Aircraft Maintenance Directorate. Symbolically representing the three organizations involved in the reorganization, a T-6 Texan II aircraft, a heavy-duty tow truck, and a huge fire truck were displayed around the troops in formation during the ceremony. With the elegance of traditional ceremony and the patriotic backdrop of a 30-foot-long American flag, Col. Mark Graper, 12th FTW commander, spoke first

about the history of the units and the reason for the reorganization. “The important aspects of our Air Force, the really important aspects – the commitment to integrity, service and excellence, the professionalism and can-do spirit of our people – are constant over time,” the colonel said. “Other aspects of our Air Force, to include our organizational structures, are not consistent. In our 57-year history we have been task-organized to accomplish our fly, fix and support tasks in different ways.” “The essence of our wing’s success lies in the proud spirit, teamwork and professionalism of our people.” The logistics and support groups were the last groups of their kind in the Air Force as wings reorganize under the new combat wing concept.

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Unfurling the flag of the newly designated 12th Mission Support Group are Col. Mark Graper, left, 12th Flying Training Wing commander, and Col. Greg Patterson, 12th MSG commander. (Photo by Dave Terry)

| 12th FLYING TRAINING WING TRAINING TIMELINE | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------|--|-----|---------------|----|---|----------|-------|--------|
| As of Monday | | | Navigator, EWO training | | | | Wing Sortie Scoreboard | | | |
| Pilot Instructor Training | | | 562nd FTS | | 563rd FTS | | Aircraft | Required | Flown | Annual |
| Squadron | Senior Class | Overall | Air Force | 248 | Undergraduate | 45 | T-1A | 2,632 | 2,749 | 4,383 |
| 99th FTS | -6.0 | 0.7 | Navy | 71 | International | 15 | T-6A | 5,844 | 5,998 | 9,103 |
| 558th FTS | 1.0 | 1.0 | International | 4 | EWC Course | 0 | T-37B | 4,974 | 4,693 | 7,508 |
| 559th FTS | -2.1 | -1.3 | NIFT | 44 | Fundamentals | 0 | T-38A | 5,628 | 5,401 | 5,949 |
| 560th FTS | 3.6 | 1.1 | | | | | T-38C | 334 | 350 | 3,612 |
| | | | | | | | T-43A | 713 | 748 | 1,160 |
| Numbers reflect days ahead or behind for senior pilot instructor training class and an average for all PIT classes currently in training. | | | Numbers reflect students currently in training. The 562nd shows source of navigator students. Air Force students include Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard. The 563rd indicates students in specific courses. | | | | The required and flown numbers reflect sorties since Oct. 1, 2003. The annual numbers are the current fiscal year target. | | | |

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AIR AND SPACE
EXPEDITIONARY
FORCE

As of Monday, 89 Team Randolph members are deployed in support of military operations around the globe.

The Randolph
WINGSPREAD

12th Flying Training Wing
Editorial Staff

Col. Mark Graper
Commander

Col. George Duda
Vice Commander

Capt. Paul Villagran
Chief of Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. Angelique McDonald
Chief of Internal Information

Senior Airman Lindsey Maurice
Editor

Prime Time Military Newspaper
Contract Staff

Jennifer Valentin
Staff Writer

Bob Hieronymus
Staff Writer

Maggie Armstrong
Graphic Designer

Wingspread office:

1 Washington Circle, Suite 4
Randolph AFB, Texas 78150
Phone: (210) 652-5760
Fax: (210) 652-5412

Wingspread Advertisements:

Prime Time Military Newspapers
7137 Military Drive West
San Antonio, Texas 78227
Phone: (210) 675-4500
Fax: (210) 675-4577

Wingspread online:

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Articles for the newspaper should be submitted by noon Thursday the week prior to the desired publication date. Items can be dropped off on a PC- or Macintosh-formatted disk at the Wingspread office in room 110 of Building 100.

Articles may also be sent by e-mail to wingspread@randolph.af.mil or by fax at 652-5412 or base ext. 7-5412.

For more information about submissions, call 652-5760 or base ext. 7-5760.

Commander's Action Line

Call 652-5149 or e-mail
randolph.actionline@randolph.af.mil



Col. Mark Graper
12th Flying Training Wing commander

While our goal is to provide the best programs, products and services to our customers, there will be instances when people believe we could have served them better.

In those cases, I ask the individual to first contact the responsible organization to allow the unit commander or manager an opportunity to ensure professional and impartial treatment.

When those officials are unable to provide satisfaction, the individual may contact me through the Action Line. I will ensure each Action Line call is looked into and a reply is given by telephone or in writing. I ask callers to include their name and telephone number so we may send a personal response.

Wing commander bids farewell

By Col. Mark Graper
12th Flying Training Wing commander

The end has finally come to our rewarding journey with the men and women of the 12th Flying Training Wing and Team Randolph. While Melinda and I are saddened to leave, we take heart in knowing that we had the good fortune of being a part of this magnificent team if only for a short time. You are a true team of professionals.

During my tenure as commander of the 12th FTW I asked the team to focus on three overarching themes to provide us guidance and vision in how we proceed with our core mission of "producing the world's finest aviators"... Readiness, Stewardship and Transformation.

You're commitment to readiness is impressive. When we received the call to deploy, you were ready. Today we have more than 3,100 Airmen postured for deployment. Over the last two years, nearly 500 of our teammates packed their mobility bags and deployed to support operations around the globe including Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. Your mental and physical preparation to meet the demands of an expeditionary air force is a shining example of how we are "maintaining superior deployment readiness."

There have been many examples of your stewardship of this historic installation including such events as I Love Randolph Week, the 4th of July Festivities and perhaps the largest FOD walk in wing history last November. Other events highlight stewardship both of the special relationship we enjoy with our community partners and of our military heritage, including the Centennial of Flight Tattoo, 2003 Randolph Air Show and the Freedom Flier Reunions.

When the Air Force and the command were looking for ways to pay tribute to 100 years of

powered flight, you stepped up to the plate to host our first-ever off-base tattoo. As a result, 12,000 people from the San Antonio area were able to view more than 50 aircraft fly-bys and a professional stage show including the Air Force Band of the West, Air Force Honor Guard and Tops in Blue. The very next day the 560th Flying Training Squadron hosted the 30th Anniversary Freedom Flier Reunion. This event commemorated the release of POWs from the Vietnam War and provided the final "fini" champagne flights for former POWs of that conflict.

As an encore, you followed that up several months later by opening the gates to 200,000 of our community neighbors during an impressive two-day air show. We were fortunate to have two world-class demonstration teams, the Navy's Blue Angels and the Army's Golden Knights. From a heritage standpoint, a highlight of the weekend was the 559th FTS' historic 15-ship T-37 formation fly-by. An air show is a lot of work but men and women from all units of Team Randolph put together a first-class event reflecting terrific professionalism. Many of our community friends commented the air show was the "best they had ever been to."

The transformation of our organization and the installation infrastructure is an on-going process that will continue as we push to meet new mission requirements and provide quality facilities. Earlier this week we inactivated the 12th Logistics Group, re-designated the 12th Aircraft Maintenance Organization as the 12th Maintenance Directorate and re-designated the 12th Support Group as the 12th Mission Support Group as part of the new combat wing initiative. Recently we completed our strategic sourcing review of base operating support, designed to ensure we have the right people in the right place. On the flight line we are in the process of converting from the T-38A to the T-38C while we continue to

meet flying training requirements. These are but a few examples of where we have been and where we are going.

Finally, this year's unofficial theme for the base could be "under construction." Two of the major projects under way are the renovation of the main gate and Harmon Drive and tearing down obsolete East Wherry housing. In the upcoming months you will also see some major construction at the commissary and, by year's end, groundbreaking for the new fitness center. When the final spade of dirt has been turned and the last bit of cement poured, Randolph Field will be positioned to support the mission for another 75 years.

Throughout these changes, events and deployments the command and the Air Force recognized some of our best and confirmed what I already knew: this group of Airmen and Department of Defense civilians stands above the rest. The awards you have earned are legion. To name just a few at the Air Force level, our child development center was the best in the Air Force in 2002. The Enlisted Club was the Air Force's best in 2003.

Most recently, our 12th Services Division garnered the Air Education and Training Command LeMay Award for the best Services unit in AETC and is one of seven organizations in the running for the Air Force level award. This is reflective of the quality work you do across the board.

My time here has been the two best years of my career. There is one simple reason... the people. This is the finest team of Airmen and civilians with whom I have had the privilege of working. Your commitment to the fly, fix and support mission is admirable. I am proud to have been a part of your team during my brief time here. Melinda and I will move on to a new adventure but rest assured Randolph will always hold a special place in our hearts. God Bless!

An Airman by any other name...

Junior enlisted members deserve respect as bluesuiter

By Erin Zagursky
1st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE
BASE, Va. - "Public affairs, Erin Zagursky" is my standard phone-answering line, but the reply I get is never standard.

Many people call me "ma'am" and some call me "Ms. Zagursky." However, people

most often respond to my telephone greeting by saying, "Hi, Airman Zagursky."

The first few times this happened, I was quick to correct the callers, realizing it is easy to mistake my first name for "Airman."

Eventually, I stopped correcting callers, because hearing what people would say

after they called me "Airman" gave me a unique insight into what it must feel like to have a few stripes on my sleeves.

Most callers treat me with the same respect as they would if they knew I was actually a civilian. They are polite and patient, kind and respectful.

Other callers treat me better than I would be treated if they

knew I was a civilian. As an Airman, I'm part of the club. A sister in arms. A fellow bluesuiter.

But there are those callers who treat me, sadly, in the same way I imagine they treat all Airmen.

They talk slowly and with very small words to make sure

See Airman on page 3

Congratulations Retirees

Today

Chief Master Sgt.
Anthony Delgado
12th Mission Support
Squadron

Senior Master Sgt.
Rudy Andabaker
Air Force Recruiting
Service

Senior Master Sgt.
Lowell Tash
19th Air Force

Wednesday

Col. Dwayne Hafer
Air Education and
Training Command

Thursday

Col. Stephen Cooper
12th Logistics Group

Retirement announcements should be submitted to the Wingspread office by noon Friday two weeks prior to the desired date of publication. E-mail announcements to randolph.retiree.messages@randolph.af.mil or fax them to 652-5412. For more information, call the Wingspread office at 652-5760.

Do things right the first time, every time

By Maj. James McClellan
100th Logistics Readiness Squadron

ROYAL AIR FORCE MILDENHALL, England – How many times have you heard someone say, “We need to do this right,” or have had a supervisor counsel you on “doing the right thing?”

I have many times in my career, but it was not until recently that I took the time to find out what this often-used phrase means. Understanding the parts of the phrase, as well as the meaning behind them, is critical to being an effective leader.

Leaders need to be actively involved in their units and the first part of this phrase is all about action: “to do.”

For a leader, the act of doing involves engagement with the troops, implies

involvement in the key processes in the unit, and most of all, demands the leader be visible. More than likely, this means he or she must leave the comfort zone; get out from behind the desk, work a different shift and volunteer to lead additional duties.

A leader must be on point, out in front and active in the organization. But action is not enough; a leader must have a firm set of values and beliefs. This brings us to the second part of the phrase, “the right.”

The right is a measure of an individual’s set of values, beliefs and customs. Do you know the difference between right and wrong? Leaders are often asked to make decisions that have ethical implications. A firm foundation of institutional values and beliefs, like the Air Force core values of “integrity first, service before self and

excellence in all we do” should be our anchor, the foundation that leaders and followers alike require.

In an article titled “Air Force Standards and Accountability,” former Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald Fogleman stated it best. He said, “At the very foundation of those concepts must be standards that are uniformly known, consistently applied and nonselectively enforced.”

Getting to the third and final part of the phrase, “the thing” is the actual act you are executing. This is the technical part. Leaders need to have a technical understanding of the processes they are charged to manage.

Of course, this is gained through experience and training in one’s career field. I counsel the company grade officers in my unit to “walk the line.” This is a

phrase plucked out of my logistical experiences and refers to understanding the intricacies of fuel pipelines, valves and tanks in a typical fuels management flight. You have to walk the fuel lines to really understand how the entire system functions.

Leaders must take the time to “walk the line” every day to ensure they know their business like no other. After all, sound decisions start with a solid understanding of the thing you are doing.

The next time you say you’re going to “do the right thing,” think about the parts of that phrase and what it means to your followers, your unit and you. Don’t let them down by not following through completely. Remember to implement the Air Force’s core values at all times.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Airman

Continued from Page 2

I understand exactly what they say. They make me repeat messages to ensure I don’t mess anything up. Or, they immediately dismiss any help I may offer and ask for someone who knows what’s going on.

Just recently, one caller slowly and clearly gave me examples of aircraft that the Air Force has just in case I wasn’t aware of what service I was in.

I am always amazed by these people. The Airmen I work with are amazing professionals. One of them won Air Combat Command’s new writer of the year, and the other taught me almost everything I need to know about media operations at the wing.

I know my situation isn’t unique. There are

outstanding Airmen all over the base, and all over our Air Force.

To assume an Airman is young or uneducated is absurd. Not only do they perform incredibly complex, life-or-death jobs every day, many of them are working toward degrees, if they have not already received them.

Many of them are mothers and fathers, wives and husbands, all working hard to balance school, career and a family.

Every chief, and even some colonels, started off as an Airman. Some of the best officers I know started off as Airmen. They now use their one- or two-stripe experience to make them better leaders and mentors to the Airmen under their command.

Now when people mistake my first name for “Airman,” I don’t usually correct them, not only because I like to hear what they say next, but also because I’m proud to be associated with these outstanding professionals.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

50 YEARS Ago

in the Wingspread

☆ The Wingspread received an award for the best base newspaper for the first quarter of 1954 in the Crew Training Air Force.

☆ The Randolph Little League season kicked off with a double-header. A major general, brigadier general and colonel, playing pitcher, catcher and batter, respectively, handled the “first pitch” honors.

☆ The Crew Training Air Force was conducting Operation Greenlight, a contest to determine which of its bases could reduce ground accidents the most.

☆ The House Armed Services Committee was considering a Department of Defense proposal for 25,000 more Wherry housing units, for a total of \$350 million (\$14,000 per unit).

☆ Regular hamburgers at Cliff’s Drive-In in New Braunfels were 25 cents.

NEWS BRIEFS

Correction notice

The outline accompanying the photos of Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom’s fini flight in last week’s *Wingspread* incorrectly reported that the general’s retirement ceremony would precede his change of command ceremony. The retirement ceremony follows the change of command ceremony.

Air Force One Stop kiosk

The 12th Comptroller Squadron announced the arrival of an Air Force One Stop kiosk at the entrance lobby of the finance office, Building 399. Military and civilian members can access myPay, vMPF, vCPF and local networks.

For more information, call 652-1858.

AETC Top 3 meeting

The Air Education and Training Command Top 3 meets at 3 p.m. Tuesday at the Randolph Enlisted Club. For more information, call Senior Master Sgt. Felipe Campos at 652-7152 or Master Sgt. Joseph Gonzales at 652-7137, ext. 2, or visit online at <https://hqaetctop3.org>.

Military Clothing Sales store hours change

The Randolph military clothing sales store hours of operation will change, effective June 1. The new hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, call the store at 652-5643.

Military Officers Association of America luncheon

The San Antonio chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (formerly the Reserve Officers Association) holds its annual awards luncheon Thursday at the Fort Sam Houston officers’ club.

During the event, a \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded to a student and \$100 U.S. Savings Bonds will be awarded to four runners up. Social hour begins at 11 a.m. with lunch served at noon. Retired Air Force Chaplain (Col.) Bill Jacobs will speak about Civil War letters. Cost of the luncheon is \$10.

For more information or to make reservations, call 228-9955.

Company Grade Officers Council elections today

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

The Randolph Company Grade Officers Council is electing a new executive council during its meeting today at 3:30 p.m. in the officers’ club.

All lieutenants and captains assigned to the base or to one of its associated units are encouraged to attend the meeting and vote on who should represent the council as president, vice-president, executive officer and treasurer.

“This is a great opportunity for Randolph CGOs to see what the council is all about,” said 1st Lt. Jeremy Taylor, current CGOC president.

“The CGOC offers young officers a vehicle, outside their career specialties or assignments, to assume leadership roles and network with their peers,” Lieutenant Taylor said. “It also provides opportunities to meet and work with

some of the best leaders at Randolph and in the Air Force.”

“I can’t begin to express how important the CGOC is to the base and the local community,” he continued. “Each year we support more than 30 events, including change of command and awards ceremonies, air shows, the junior enlisted appreciation day, leadership luncheons, distinguished visitor tours and a highway clean up program.”

In addition, the CGOC sponsors the annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony, Stars and Bars Dining Out and Wing Squadron Officers Course.

To learn more about the CGOC, base company grade officers can attend the meetings and become a part of the many activities planned for the coming year.

For more information, call Lieutenant Taylor at 652-6109.

Sixteen Randolph technical sergeants graduate NCOA

Sixteen Randolph technical sergeants graduated from the NCO Academy at Lackland May 13.

Among the graduates is Tech. Sgt. Kristina Rogers, Air Force Personnel Center, who was named a distinguished graduate. Other graduates are:

12th Flying Training Wing
Tech. Sgt. Lori Levitt
Tech. Sgt. Angelique McDonald

Air Education and Training Command
Tech. Sgt. Amy Talbot

AFPC
Tech. Sgt. James Chevalier
Tech. Sgt. Donna Hunter
Tech. Sgt. Steven Kindle
Tech. Sgt. Anthony Taylor
Tech. Sgt. Ronald Taylor

Air Force Recruiting Service
Tech. Sgt. Perry Eddy
Tech. Sgt. Dennis Hall
Tech. Sgt. Charles Jones

Air Force Manpower Agency
Tech. Sgt. Danielle Griffith

Defense Medical Readiness Training Institute
Tech. Sgt. Kathleen Coleman
Tech. Sgt. Gregory Stewart

Fixed Wing 35
Tech. Sgt. James Jones

Top instructor pilots honored

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

The San Antonio Stinsons Chapter #2 of the Order of Daedalians presented their Crane and Eubank Awards to the top Randolph instructor pilots of the year at their Living Legends of Military Aviation meeting May 14.

The Crane Award was given to 1st Lt. Andrew Patrick as the top student instructor pilot of the year and the Eubank Award was presented to Maj. Michael Wood as the top instructor pilot of the year.

Major Wood is currently flying with the 558th Flying Training Squadron as an Air Force Reserve officer assigned to the 100th Flying Training Squadron. He supervises the entire squadron life support section, providing life support functions to 80 T-6 Texan II instructor pilots and more than 200 students.

The Major is the wing’s only reservist T-6 Functional Check Flight pilot. He was also selected as the training and standardization officer for the T-6 runway supervisory unit and is one of only two officers in the unit authorized to give RSU evaluations. The RSUs control more than 20,000 takeoffs and landings during the year.

He received multiple accolades for his actions in saving a \$4.5 million T-6 when the engine catastrophically failed and he recovered it on a short, 3,200 foot airfield. This was the first successful forced landing of a T-6 without damage to the aircraft. After mechanical repairs were done, he took off from the field with only 75 percent of the normal runway length available, but sustained a significant loss of power and made another successful emergency landing.

“Major Wood is consistently among the squadron’s top ten instructors for sortie production,” said Lt. Col. Byron Copeland, T-6 flight commander. “He flew more than 350 hours and nearly 240 sorties during the year. That included several foreign nationals – all of whom passed their tests.”



Left: 1st Lt. Andrew Patrick was presented the San Antonio chapter of the Daedalian’s Col. Carl Crane Award as student instructor pilot of the year. (Photo by Steve White) Right: Maj. Michael Wood was honored by the San Antonio chapter of the Daedalians with the General Eugene Eubank Award as the best instructor pilot of the year. (Photo by Dave Terry)



“I don’t know why they chose me,” Major Wood said with characteristic humility. “I was only doing my job. But I am honored to receive this award.”

The Eubank Award honors the memory of Maj. Gen. Eugene Eubank, who was instrumental in the development of military flight training procedures that were critical particularly during World War II. General Eubank began his career as a pilot instructor during World War I and retired in 1954 as the Air Force Inspector General.

Lieutenant Patrick, who is now assigned to the 86th Flying Training Squadron at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, was assigned to the 99th Flying Training Squadron as a T-1 Jayhawk student instructor pilot during the period covered by the award.

Lt. Col. Randall Gibb, 99th FTS commander said that Lieutenant Patrick excelled in what is one of the most demanding pilot training courses in the Air

Force while assigned to Randolph.

“Lieutenant Patrick raised the bar in academics and in his daily simulator and aircraft sorties,” he said. “He earned the coveted ‘exceptionally qualified’ rating on his formal evaluations, a feat that places him in the top 0.5 percent of T-1A pilot instructor trainees.”

The Crane Award honors the memory of Col. Carl Crane, pioneer flight instructor and proponent of instrument flying in the early years of military aviation. Colonel Crane also became the first flight captain of the Stinsons Flight when it was organized in 1964.

The Daedalian event, attended by about 200 members and guests, also featured six highly decorated Air Force aviators and three Womens Air Service Pilots, whose collective careers spanned three wars. Members and guests were free to walk around and talk with the “living legends” for much of the evening.

AFPC senior NCO nets \$10K through ‘IDEA’

Staff Sgt. Matthew Miller
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

Thanks to a bright idea and the Air Force’s Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program, one Air Force Personnel Center master sergeant added \$10,000 to his bank account recently.

Master Sgt. Michael Carpenter, a communication computer systems operations supervisor with the directorate of personnel data systems, renegotiated a printer contract that will save the Air Force more than \$148,000 annually.

“I felt the current platform that was in place was much too expensive based on other print operations that I have been involved with,” said Sergeant Carpenter. “The IDEA program was a way that I could make a suggestion like this while saving taxpayer dollars.”

The IDEA program’s goal is to reward individuals and teams for contributing ideas that benefit the government by streamlining a process and improving or increasing productivity and efficiency.

Anyone can submit an idea through the IDEA Program Data System online at <https://ideas.randolph.af.mil>.

Each idea submitted is assigned a number and is reviewed at the levels necessary to evaluate and implement it. Throughout the process, everyone involved can check the status of who is evaluating the submission and the comments it has received.

More than 4,600 ideas have already been submitted throughout the Air Force in fiscal year 2004 at a savings of more than \$37 million. Of those, more than 3,300 have been approved – with submitters receiving more than \$1.5 million in rewards.



Master Sgt. Michael Carpenter, Air Force Personnel Center, reviews some paperwork at his desk. The senior NCO was recently awarded \$10,000 for an idea he submitted to the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness Program. (Photo by Senior Airman Lindsey Maurice)

Farewell

Continued from Page 1

served with the men and women of the 12th. This is an awesome team,” said the colonel. “We love Randolph and will miss the community. But we’re confident the team will continue to do great things to maintain the ‘Showplace of the Air Force’ tradition and serve our country well.”

Colonel Graper and his wife Melinda will move on to Yongsan Army Garrison, South Korea where he will be the new deputy J-3 (Operations), Air Force Element Headquarters Republic of Korea.

Colonel Hesterman, a 1983 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, has served in Germany, Korea and England and is moving here from his current position with the Air Force Senior Leader Management Office at the Pentagon.

Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom, 19th Air Force commander, will preside over the ceremony, handing the ceremonial 12th FTW flag to Colonel Hesterman.

Wing

Continued from Page 1

“This reorganization reflects two requirements,” Colonel Graper said. “First, the results of the strategic sourcing studies, and second, to parallel our sister wings across the Air Force.”

As the last commander of the 12th Logistics Group, Col. Stephen Cooper also pointed to the blending of a record of excellence with the continuing spirit of teamwork.

“The logistics group,” Colonel Cooper said, “has been the heartbeat of Randolph Field, providing

supplies, moving people, pumping aviation fuel and generating sorties for over 50 years. Because the people and the values they represent continue through the reorganization, that heartbeat remains strong and constant.”

In assuming command of the new 12th Mission Support Group, Col. Greg Patterson said that, in spite of the organizational changes, “one thing that will not change is the support this wing gives to Team Randolph and the Air Force.”

In concluding the formal remarks portion of the ceremony, Colonel Patterson said, “Now, team, it’s time to get out there and do what you are good at – fly, fix and support!”

End of an era

Last Randolph T-38A simulator shut down

By Bob Hieronymus
Wingspread staff writer

After 26 years and training literally thousands of pilots, the last of Randolph's full-motion T-38A simulators has retired.

The once state-of-the-art equipment is now replaced by virtual reality trainers designed to replicate the cockpit environment of the new T-38C aircraft.

Ron Hamada, now a training manager at the Air Education and Training Command Directorate of Operations, was involved in the installation of the first of the full motion T-38A simulators in 1978.

"They were top-of-the-line, state-of-the-art systems then," said Mr. Hamada. "They replaced an earlier, non-motion Link trainer that lacked the desired realism."

To properly replicate the T-38A, the simulator had cockpits for both the instructor and student pilot, each equipped with all the analog gauges and controls found in the real aircraft. The simulator controller sat at a console located 40 or more feet away from where he observed the mission and controlled the presentation of the training syllabus through a custom Harris Night Hawk computer and Sun Workstation. A

Novoview SP3T Image Generator (television system) was positioned so that a flat image appeared in front of each cockpit, giving visual clues of what would be visible outside the cockpit.

As the mission progressed, the whole cockpit on its big platform moved in response to the program and the student's stick inputs. Huge hydraulic cylinders, powered by a 75 horsepower engine and drawing from a 500-gallon oil storage tank in another room, articulated the platform. Each piston was capable of quickly extending as much as 56 inches.

The complexity of the system posed many operational and maintenance challenges, said Joe Rippke, 12th Operations Support Squadron Ground Training Flight program manager.

"When the system worked – which was most of the time – it was great," he said. "But when the valves malfunctioned, the ride could get wild."

The new trainers are based on the concept of virtual reality, by which the student is presented with a 180 degree image around and above the front of the cockpit. As the student "maneuvers" the trainer, the visual images respond graphically to what the aircraft would be doing. The simulator operator is



This over-the-shoulder view of the T-38C trainer shows the "glass cockpit" with its digital instrument displays, as found in the new T-38C aircraft. A student training in this cockpit sees highly realistic, virtual reality images of the world outside the aircraft ahead, above and to the sides. The digital instruments display all the data related to the flight, following the planned mission and the student's actions during the scenario. (Photo by Javier Garcia)

positioned immediately behind the student and can talk over the student's shoulder, which allows a degree of instructor-student feedback not possible in the old system.

But the underlying reason for the change, Mr. Rippke stated, is the fact that the T-38C aircraft has what is known as a "glass cockpit." The difference between a cockpit equipped with analog instruments and one equipped with the new digital displays is significant.

"A training system has to prepare the pilots for the aircraft they'll fly," Mr. Rippke said. "The old full-motion simulators don't present the new cockpit and, in the final analysis, the motion part of the training environment was exciting, but wasn't necessary to accomplish the training goals. So this is the time to make the change."

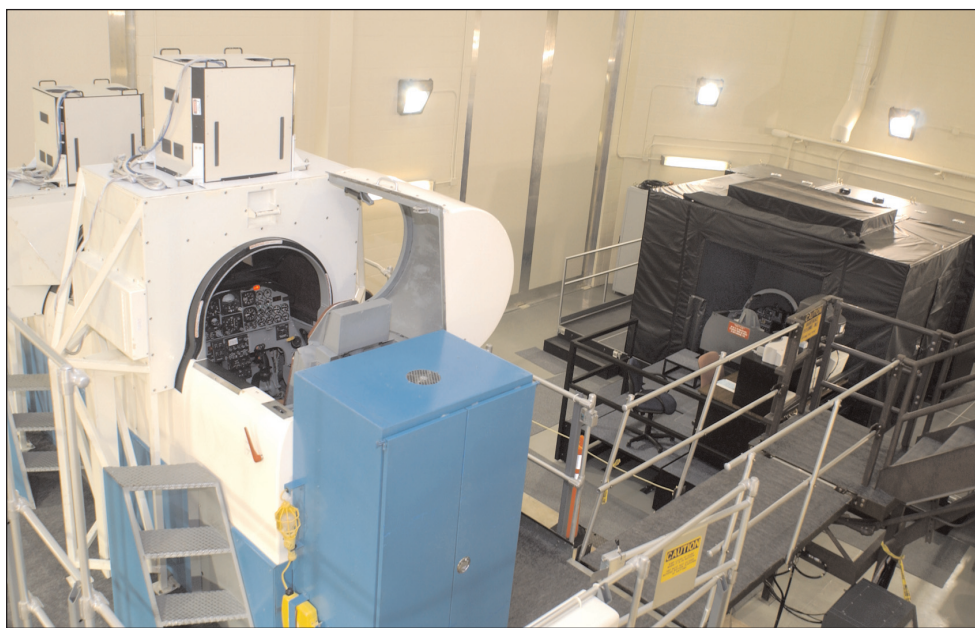
The new trainers are considerably

smaller and are controlled by a personal computer that is also capable of sophisticated animations to add realism and training options. The instructor can even inject a "wingman" into the scenario to add the challenges of formation flying. The cost of operating and maintaining the new equipment is much less than the old systems, Mr. Rippke said.

Randolph will have completed its conversion to T-38C aircraft by August, so this is the time to install the new trainers, Mr. Rippke said.

"We will have two operational flight trainers and one unit training device on line and expect to keep them running 16 hours a day to meet the student load," he said.

As with the older systems, the trainers are maintained by the Boeing Company and training instructors are provided by Lear Siegler Incorporated.



Randolph's two-story tall T-38A simulator (left) towers over the new T-38C trainer (right) in the 12th Flying Training Wing's simulator building. In the bottom right corner of the photo is the catwalk leading to the T-38A simulator platform that is balanced on eight computer-controlled hydraulic cylinders. The hydraulic pistons physically move the simulator to replicate aircraft attitudes as the simulated flight progresses. Visible under the raised hood is the instructor pilot's cockpit with its full set of analog instruments as found in the actual T-38A. Forward of the instructor's cockpit is a similarly equipped student pilot's cockpit. (Photo by Javier Garcia)

New commands in Iraq replacing combined joint task force

By John Banusiewicz
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Two new military commands stood up in Iraq Saturday, replacing the current coalition military organization. Multinational Corps Iraq and Multinational Force Iraq replaced Combined Joint Task Force 7.

Coalition military spokesman Army Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, at a Baghdad news conference May 14, said the change addresses a concern that a combined joint task force headquarters was not sufficient to handle the military workload in Iraq efficiently.

"It's certainly more than a formality," he said. "It is trying to get the proper command structure for the days, weeks and months ahead."

General Kimmitt explained that Multinational Corps Iraq focuses on the tactical fight – the day-

to-day military operations and the maneuvering of the six multinational divisions on the ground. Army Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz commands the corps.

Meanwhile, Multinational Force Iraq focuses on more strategic aspects of the military presence in Iraq, such as talking with sheiks and political leaders, and on training, equipping and fielding Iraqi security forces, General Kimmitt said.

Multinational Force Iraq "will certainly be involved in the tactical operations, but only to the extent that they have somewhat of an operational and strategic impact on this country," Kimmitt said.

Army Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, former CJTF 7 commander, heads the force and has already been working the strategic issues. The new command structure enables him to focus more of his time and energy in that direction, Kimmitt said.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)

Fighting for a cause



An Air Force HH-60G Pavehawk from the 64th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron deploys pararescuemen to Balad Air Base, Iraq, Saturday. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Aaron Allmon II)

Airmen receive top honors at ALS graduation

By Senior Airman Lindsey Maurice
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Three senior airmen received special recognition during the Randolph Airmen

Leadership School graduation ceremony May 14 at the enlisted club.

Senior Airman Daniel Finkensadt, 12th Contracting Squadron, received the John L. Levitow award, which is presented to the student finishing at the top of the class.

Senior Airman Leah Francisco, 12th Security Forces Squadron, received the academic award, which is presented to the student who excels academically on both performance evaluations and objective phase tests.

Senior Airman Samuel Johnson, 93rd Intelligence Squadron, received the leadership award, which is presented to the student who best exemplifies the characteristics of a leader while attending ALS.



Senior Airman Daniel Finkensadt
John L. Levitow Award



Senior Airman Leah Francisco
Academic Award



Senior Airman Samuel Johnson
Leadership Award

Election year 2004

Legal officials provide political activity guidance

SHEPPARD AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The upcoming presidential election. The war on terrorism. The 9/11 Commission.

There are a number of issues out there and an even greater number of opinions.

It is important to remember military members and Department of Defense civilian employees are subject to limits on their political activities, according to military legal officials.

Military members can find the rules for political participation in DoD Directive 1344.10, Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces on Active Duty, and Air Force Instruction 51-902, Political Activities by Members of the Air Force.

Civilian employees are governed by Section 6-200 of the Joint Ethics Regulation.

For military members, failure to comply with these requirements may be chargeable under Uniform Code of Military Justice Article 92, failure to obey a lawful order or regulation.

The following is a list of permissible and prohibited political actions.

Active duty military members may:

- ❑ Register and vote.
- ❑ Express an opinion on political candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the armed forces.
- ❑ Contribute money to a political organization, including parties and committees to elect specific candidates.
- ❑ Attend political meetings or rallies as a spectator when not in uniform.
- ❑ Join a political club and attend its meetings when not in uniform.
- ❑ Serve as an election official, if such service is not as a representative of a partisan political party, does not interfere with military duties, is performed while out of uniform, and has the prior approval of the major command commander or equivalent authority.

- ❑ Display a political sticker on the member’s private vehicle, or wear a political button when not in uniform and not on duty.
- ❑ Sign a petition for specific legislative action or a petition to place a candidate’s name on an official election ballot if the signing does not obligate the member to engage in partisan political activity and is done as a private citizen.
- ❑ Write a personal letter, not for publication, expressing preference for a specific political candidate or cause.

Active duty military members may not:

- ❑ Be a candidate for or hold civil office except as authorized by DoD Directive 1344.10.
- ❑ Allow or cause to be published partisan political articles signed or authorized by the member for soliciting votes for or against a partisan political party or candidate.
- ❑ Speak before a partisan political gathering of any kind for promoting a partisan political party or candidate.
- ❑ Participate in any radio, television or other program or group discussion as an advocate of a partisan political party or candidate.
- ❑ Solicit or otherwise engage in fund-raising activities in federal offices or facilities, including military installations, for a partisan political cause or candidate.
- ❑ Make campaign contributions directly to a partisan political candidate.
- ❑ Sell tickets for or otherwise actively promote political dinners and other such fund-raising events.
- ❑ March or ride in a partisan political parade.
- ❑ Serve in any official capacity or be listed as a sponsor of a partisan political club.
- ❑ Perform clerical or other duties for a partisan political committee during a campaign or on election day.
- ❑ Engage in the public or organized recruitment of others to become partisan candidates for nomination or election to a civil office.
- ❑ Display a large political sign, banner or poster on the top or side of a member’s private vehicle.

DoD civilian employees may:

- ❑ Do all of the political activities active duty military members may do.
- ❑ Be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections.
- ❑ Assist in voter registration drives.
- ❑ Express opinions about candidates and issues, to include making speeches.
- ❑ Hold office in political clubs or parties.
- ❑ Distribute campaign literature in partisan elections.
- ❑ Be active at political rallies and meetings.
- ❑ Campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections, referendum questions, constitutional amendments or municipal ordinances.

DoD civilian employees may not:

- ❑ Use official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with or affecting the result of an election.
- ❑ Be candidates in partisan elections.
- ❑ Wear political buttons on duty.
- ❑ Solicit political contributions from the general public, subordinates or members of other federal labor or employee organizations.
- ❑ Engage in political activity while on duty, in any federal workplace, wearing an official uniform or displaying official insignia, or using a government or government-leased vehicle.
- ❑ Knowingly solicit or discourage the political activity of any person who has any business with DoD.
- ❑ Contribute to the political campaign of another federal employee who is in the employee’s chain of command or supervision.

The most important thing to remember is to check the rules before engaging in a political activity. Also, when in doubt, seek further advice from a unit voting representative or the legal office.

(Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service)

Navigator students, instructors learn importance of safety

By Capt. Joseph Jones
562nd Flying Training Squadron

In recognition of Operation Safe Summer, which kicked off May 11, more than 300 student navigators and 80 permanent party members from the 562nd Flying Training



Patrolman Travis Hamby, Universal City Police Department, performs a field sobriety test on Capt. Chris Buckley, 562nd Flying Training Squadron, during a demonstration at the unit’s Operation Safe Summer kick-off May 11. (Photo by Allen Trujillo)

Squadron gathered outside the unit to listen to a variety of safety briefings from both base and local safety officials.

Topics of the day included fire prevention, heat stress effects and prevention, and drinking and driving.

Terry Aikman, a Schertz fire inspector, started off the day talking about barbeque and grilling safety and the potential dangers of improperly disposing the remnants of such. Additionally, he spoke about the laws concerning fireworks in San Antonio and the surrounding cities. He conveyed the importance of each topic with personal and other true stories that he has witnessed throughout his 27 years as an inspector.

Next up was 1st Lt. Gabriel Gonzalez, 12th Aeromedical Dental Squadron Flight Physiology, who spoke of the dangers of heat stress and the importance of staying hydrated throughout the year, and most importantly during the summer months. To reinforce this, he explained that more than 85 percent of the U.S. population is chronically dehydrated at all times, and that the only proper method of combating this situation is to maintain a regular intake of liquids, primarily water, throughout the day.

The final guest speaker was Patrolman Travis Hamby, Universal City Police Department, who gave a presentation on drinking and driving and its legal and potentially life threatening ramifications. He also discussed the basic principles of the field sobriety test and the factors police



Capt. Mike Thomas, 562nd Flying Training Squadron, performs the breathalyzer test during a demonstration at the unit’s Operation Safe Summer kick-off May 11. (Photo by Allen Trujillo)

officers look for to determine the impairment of drivers that may be under the influence of alcohol or other substances. To aid in this, Capts. Chris Buckley and Mike Thomas participated in a demonstration of the techniques in front of the assembled students and staff.

Randolph Clinic addresses customer concerns

By Lt. Col. Linda Eaton
12th Medical Support Squadron commander

In an effort to address some common concerns made in regards to some services of the Randolph Clinic, 12th Medical Group officials are implementing some changes to certain procedures and explaining others.

One recurring issue at the Randolph Clinic involves patients trying to check in at the family care clinic prior to their appointment and experiencing an excessively long wait. To address this, the clinic is changing its patient flow in the FCC.

Effective Monday, the medical records window in the FCC waiting area will be closed to patients and replaced by a dedicated check-in area located catty corner to the previous window. Since patient check-in should be a quick procedure, there will be no numbers to take.

All other services that have been traditionally managed at the medical records window, such as requests for a medical record or requests to be registered in the Composite Health Care System, will now be handled at a side window in the FCC waiting area or at the clinic information desk. This new window will also function as the FCC customer service window. Beneficiaries asking for services at this window should take a number and wait in the FCC waiting area until called.

The benefits of this new process are quicker check-in and more privacy for all other requests. The revitalized clinic information desk in the lobby near the laboratory will manage any general information questions patients might have.

Beneficiaries can visit the information desk in person, or call 652-2933 for more information.

Access to medical records is another frequent area of concern. The clinic is bound by Air Force instruction guidance that states “health records are the property of the U.S. government, not the individual. Maintenance of records at the military treatment facility is required.”

In addition, the Air Force Surgeon General’s guidance is that “patients may request a copy of pertinent sections of their records. However, the original should not be relinquished except in rare occasions when an exception is required.”

If a copy is requested, it will normally take about eight weeks to do so, unless a medical necessity has been identified. Only the primary care manager can determine if a valid medical necessity requiring a patient’s entire medical record exists.

If a patient is seeing a primary care manager today, for example, to get a referral appointment started, the clinic’s goal is to provide the patient with a copy of all the medical



Senior Airman Song Moon, 12th Medical Support Squadron pharmacy technician, checks for medication in stock at the clinic. (Photo by Senior Airman Lindsey Maurice)

information from his or her chart that he or she will need to bring to that next visit with the specialist before leaving that same day.

This will be arranged through the new FCC customer service window as well. If something precludes this from happening, the PCM is the only one that can authorize release of the original record.

A Department of Defense pamphlet on Health Information Privacy can be picked up at the information desk for more details.

Access is another common concern at the clinic. Appointment templates are continuously changed, and occasionally the clinic does experience either unexpected provider absences or scheduled absences due to required training, exercises or mobilization.

Seasonal events, like peak flu season, usually overflow the appointment availability as well. TRICARE standards are 24 hours for urgent care, seven days for routine care and 28 days for specialty care. Telephone consults are also available by dialing the appointment desk at 945-0411, with return calls

being provided within 72 hours.

These calls are reviewed by a primary care manager team nurse, with the most severe medical issues being responded to first. It is crucial that the patient provide as accurate and complete description of their symptoms as possible. Acutely ill patients are normally called back the same day, but for non-urgent matters, such as prescription refills, it will take longer.

If patients are calling long distance for an appointment, the clinic recently acquired a toll-free number they can use instead, which is 1-866-213-0674.

As a reminder, the clinic does not provide emergency care, therefore, “911” must be dialed for an emergency situation.

Aside from the appointment desk, patients can make routine appointments online by registering at www.tricareonline.com. The advantage to making an appointment online is that appointment time options are more immediately visible than they are when talking to an appointment desk clerk.

The majority of complaints received by the clinic over the past several months have been related to long waits at the pharmacy since the new PharmASSIST system was installed.

This process was mandated Air Force wide to ensure patient safety and medication accuracy. It is a required program and cannot be changed.

However, the clinic has done several things to help improve some shortfalls of the new system within its control. A numbering system was installed in the refill pharmacy so that patients can sit rather than stand in line when waiting to pick up medications, a public address system has been activated in this area so patients are better able to hear when their number is called, and a project to install two additional pick-up windows has been funded and should be completed in early June.

As a reminder, the best time to pick up refills, as well as new or faxed prescriptions, is early morning, and as always active duty members in uniform have priority to go to the front of the line.

Alternatives to using the pharmacy include local participating civilian pharmacies and the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy program. A written prescription from a doctor is required for these services. Both are free to active duty and cost \$3 for generic drugs and \$9 for non-generic drugs for non-active duty beneficiaries.

More information is available online at www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/.

Another option is to use one of the other military pharmacies in the San Antonio area. If these units routinely stock the medication, the patient can utilize their services at no cost.

For more information, call 652-4127.

Man’s best friend

Nonprofit organizations arrange foster care for military pets

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Deploying overseas means leaving friends and loved ones behind. For servicemembers with no one to take care of their beloved dog, cat, bird or other pet, it once meant also having to abandon or turn the pet over to a shelter – never to see it again.

Thanks to two nonprofit groups, the Military Pets Foster Project and Operation Noble Foster, servicemembers can arrange foster care for their pets while they are gone.

The Military Pets Foster Project, a nonprofit group founded by animal lover Steve Albin, has placed about 15,000 pets in foster homes throughout the United States while their owners serve in Iraq and Afghanistan. Operation Noble Foster, which specializes in foster homes for cats, has found temporary homes for about 25 military cats a month since shortly after

Sept. 11, 2001, founder Linda Mercer said.

Mr. Albin and Ms. Mercer said they established their groups shortly after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. That is when they learned that thousands of servicemembers had been forced to give up their pets when they deployed to Operation Desert Storm more than a decade earlier.

“What kind of morale builder is that?” Mr. Albin asked. “Does it mean that to serve, you have to be willing to put your best friend to sleep?”

Since launching his group, Mr. Albin estimates that it has saved as many as 150,000 pets from being abandoned or turned over to shelters, where pets not quickly adopted often are euthanized. Although dogs and cats are the most common pets in need of foster homes, he said his group has also placed ferrets, rabbits, horses, lizards, snakes and other “exotics,” including a pot-bellied pig.

Mr. Albin said he matches pets in need of foster care with appropriate foster homes

and requires those involved in the arrangement to sign a foster agreement.

Both Mr. Albin and Ms. Mercer said they are impressed by the outpouring of support they receive from people willing to provide foster care for pets while servicemembers deploy supporting the war, serve tours where they cannot take their pets, or even ship off to basic training.

“People are opening up their hearts and their doors to help the people of the military,” Mr. Albin said. “It’s a patriotic gesture of thanks.”

Mark Delman from Parker, Colo., signed up through Operation Noble Foster to provide a foster home for five cats owned by a military family currently stationed in Germany. Mr. Delman said he encourages others to open their doors as well.

“These people are keeping us safe and free, and shouldn’t have to give up their beloved pets to do so,” he said. “Offering a foster home is a way of saying ‘thanks.’ I tell people not to hesitate to do it.”

Mr. Albin encourages servicemembers in need of foster care for their pets to give the groups as much notice as possible of their upcoming deployment so they can find a suitable home.

For more information, visit the Military Pets Foster Project’s Website at <https://www.netpets.org/netp/foster.php> or the Operation Noble Foster Web site at <http://www.operationnoblefoster.org/>.

(Courtesy of Air Force Print News)



Good Neighbor:

Caring for home air conditioning systems

(This “Good Neighbor” column is designed to help Team Randolph members be good stewards of our historic infrastructure. The column is planned to alternate with “Construction Corner” and includes helpful tips from our 12th Civil Engineer Squadron for facility managers and housing residents. I appreciate your continuing efforts to help maintain Randolph as the Showplace of the Air Force!
– Col. Greg Patterson, 12th Mission Support Group commander)

For everyone who likes to keep their car running at peak performance, they are likely familiar with the phrase “scheduled maintenance.” Performing scheduled maintenance tasks such as changing engine oil, rotating and balancing tires, and doing a complete tune-up are essential to lowering one’s chances of ending up broken down on the side of the road. Just as people service their cars on a regular basis, they should do the same for their home air conditioning systems. Failure to do this can make the system work harder, lower its efficiency and cost more to operate.

Preventive maintenance is a major step in ensuring that an air conditioner is ready for the Texas summer heat. More than 75 percent of all home air conditioning failures could be eliminated if the problems that led to the failure were corrected in a timely manner. Not only does preventive maintenance increase the reliability of a system, but it also increases comfort, lowers operating costs, increases a system’s capacity and ensures longer equipment life.

For proper servicing of an air conditioning system, a trained technician should be consulted. However, a person can accomplish one of the most important maintenance tasks without any special training – routinely replacing the system’s filter.

Clogged, dirty filters can block normal airflow and reduce a system’s efficiency significantly. With normal airflow obstructed, air that bypasses a dirty or incorrectly sized filter may carry dirt directly into an air conditioning system’s internal components, thus lowering it’s cooling capacity.

For base housing units, the system filters are disposable and not intended to be cleaned or re-used. They should be checked on a monthly basis, and replaced as necessary. Some filters may need more frequent attention if the air conditioner is in constant use, is subjected to dusty conditions, or if there are fur-bearing pets in the house.

Filters are normally located somewhere along the return duct’s length. Common filter locations are in walls, ceilings, furnaces or in the air conditioner itself. For better system performance and lower maintenance, all fiberglass filters in base housing units should be replaced with pleated fiberglass filters. Base residents having trouble locating their unit’s filter or who need a new one should contact base housing maintenance.

For more information, base housing residents should call 652-1856.

Splish Splash

Base pools open soon

By Jennifer Valentin
Wingspread staff writer

Base families should get their suntan lotion, towels and bathing suits ready, because the base pool summer openers are just over a week away.

The center pool opens May 29 and the south pool opens June 1.

The center pool’s summer kick-off party begins at 1 p.m. with poolside fun, free hot dogs and a “Build a Boat” contest.

The contest and party are open for those who purchase either a season pass or daily pass.

For the contest, materials to build the boats are provided. Teams can be made up of family members or unit and squadron members.

Prizes are awarded for the most creative boat, the boat that travels the furthest, and the most spirited boat crew.

“We encourage everyone to come out and enjoy

the first day of the swimming season on base!” said Shelta Reese, 12th Services Division marketing. “The contest is for all ages, so sign up and see if your boat wins!”

The 12th Services Division also hosts swimming lessons for children 6 weeks and older at the south pool this summer.

The cost is \$25 per session for those who own a season pool pass, and \$50 for all others.

Swimming lessons run Monday through Friday for two weeks. Both morning and afternoon classes are available. Registration is already underway.

Pool season passes are also available for purchase for \$25 per person, or \$75 per family, for a family of four. Daily admission without a pass is \$2 per person.

For more information, call 652-2052. After the pools are open, customers can call the center pool at 652-2060 or the south pool at 652-2053.

Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Second Lt.
Zarine Malesra
Air Force Occupational
Measurement Squadron
test psychologist

“One of the most important aspects of my life is keeping in touch with my heritage – remembering the background and culture that is involved in the food, celebrations and family events. I feel that taking part in learning about one’s heritage is very important. I am very proud of my ancestry and the Asian Pacific traditions that I have been blessed to experience.”

(Photo by Jennifer Valentin)



SPORTS SHORTS

Junior golf clinic

The Randolph Oaks Golf Course hosts a free junior golf clinic for base youth ages 8 to 17 from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday. During the clinic, participants learn basic putting and chipping techniques.

For more information, call 652-4570.

Volleyball tournament

The fitness center hosts an Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month sand volleyball tournament Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. T-shirts are awarded to participants and the winning team receives a champion-ship trophy.

For more information, call 652-5316.

Weigh to win class

The health and wellness center hosts a three-part weigh to win class starting at 11 a.m. Wednesday. The focus of the course is on helping participants get their bodies healthy and to lose weight by changing their eating habits and getting fit.

To sign up or for more information, call 652-2300.

Air Force Marathon

The Air Education and Training Command is sponsoring teams for the 2004 Air Force Marathon to take place at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Sept. 18. Teams are selected from AETC personnel, including active duty Airmen, Reservists and Guardsmen, based on fastest times in the following categories: coed open relay, men’s open relay and women’s open relay.

Those interested must submit an Air Force Form 303 to the base fitness center no later than Thursday. Applicants must list the category they wish to enter on the form.

For more information, call 652-5316.

Yards of the Month

The following base members earned Yard of the Month awards for April. Each winner receives an award certificate, letter of congratulations, Services coupon book worth \$200, a \$25 gift certificate to the base exchange and a sign for their yard. The runners-up receive an award certificate, letter of congratulations and a sign for their yard.

Circle Housing

Winner: Maj. Jeffrey and Megan Seminaro, 559th Flying Training Squadron

Runner-up: Lt. Col. Mark and Karen Hryhorchuk, Air Education and Training Command

Duplex

Winner: Senior Master Sgt. Ernie and Maria Valencia, Air Force Personnel Center

Runner-up: Master Sgt. Kenneth and Patricia Jackson, AETC

Townhouse

Winner: 1st Lt. Michelle and Andrew Nash, Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron

Runner-up: Tech. Sgt. Mitchell and Susan Willis, AETC

West Wherry

Winner: Tech. Sgt. Joseph and Thelma Erskine, AFPC

Runner-up: Master Sgt. Troy and Laura Belyeu, Joint Personal Property Shipping Office





12th LRS takes commanding first inning lead, defeats Security Forces 18-11

By Senior Airman Lindsey Maurice
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron defeated the 12th Security Forces Squadron 18-11 Monday night in

intramural softball. With an unbelievable first inning, including a grand slam by 12th LRS' Keith Nash and two more home runs by Nash and team coach Chris Goelz, the 12th LRS squad took a commanding 13-0 lead that

the 12th SFS was unable to overcome. "We just had an exceptional game tonight," said Coach Goelz. "We came into this game concentrating on hitting the ball better than we have been and we did just that. If we can continue playing like we did that first inning for the rest of the season then we definitely have a shot at the title." Facing a huge deficit, 12th SFS' Pedro Cantu knew he had to step up to the plate and make a big play. With two outs and one man on first, Cantu blasted a shot over the right field fence. Teammate Adam Sheppard followed that up in the bottom of the second, hitting a home run to left field, followed by doubles from Thomas Sauter and Cantu for three more RBIs to close the gap. But 12th LRS' Todd Abbott hammered out a triple to left center to take the LRS lead to 16-6. The 12th SFS answered back with three more runs in the bottom of the fourth, including one off of a walk. LRS scored one in the fifth off of a Goelz RBI double down the left field line. The 12th SFS squad tacked on two more runs off of singles in the bottom of the fifth, before a scoreless sixth inning from both teams. The game ended after the sixth as time expired.

Top left: Ben Lopez, 12th Logistics Readiness Squadron, swings for the fence Monday evening during his team's intramural softball match against the 12th Security Forces Squadron. Left: Keith Nash, 12th SFS, slides into second base on a double play. (Photos by Steve White)



Swing batter batter



Left: Lady Rambler Pam Tarpey swings at a pitch during her team's game against the Lackland Warhawks Tuesday night. Both the Randolph Lady Ramblers and the Lackland Warhawks are members of the San Antonio Military League. The Warhawks beat the Lady Ramblers 5-2 and 11-7 that night. Above: Lady Rambler Cindy Bell (left) dives onto home plate to make the tag. (Photos by Steve White)